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This week marks the first Anniversary of our store in downtown Elba and our reception has been everything we had hoped for. The confidence we have developed in the medical professionals serving the great citizens of Elba is a direct reflection of the superb medical care we see our citizens receiving on a daily basis. We see caring, concern, and an extremely high level of medical expertise from these professionals every day.

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Coffee County Arts Alliance To Present One Man Play

The Coffee County Arts Alliance will continue its 20th season with the presentation of a one-man play, "Churchill and Marlow: Their Finest Hour". The performance will take place March 11, 1994, at 7:30 p.m., at the Enterprise High School Auditorium. A compelling drama by playwright Willard Manus, the play pits minister of England with America's leading broadcaster against the great drop of World War II. Veteran actor Aury Pinson brings these two great characters to life moving from one personality to the other, undergoing remarkable transformations in manner, speech and expression to create the illusion of intimate dialogue. Mr. Pinson has worked with numerous

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA - 897-2006

Selected scripture: Galatians 4: 1-7.

Thinking of you, praying for you. Mr. Henry Caldwell, Mr. Grover Belcher, Mrs. Versie Barnes, Mrs. Priscilla Kelley, Mrs. Ruby H. Ellison, Mr. Earnest Ellison.

14th Pastoral Anniversary Celebration

Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Troy, AL, will celebrate the 14th anniversary of their pastor, Rev. Murray Powell, on Sunday, March 6, 1994 at 2:30 p.m. The guest minister will be Rev. A. R. Williams, Elba, pastor of Rocky Head MB Church, Elba, and Shiloh Baptist Church, Tarentum, AL.

Mass Choir Concert

The Community Wide Mass Choir will be in concert March 13, 1994 at 6:30 p.m. at the Southeast Alabama Singing Building, Danley's Crossroads, Elba.

Thao Johnson and Tonika Daniels, students at Auburn University, Auburn, AL, visited Theo's grandparents, Grover and Eria Belcher, Elba, and other relatives over the weekend.

Layman's Convention

The 22nd Session of the Mulberry District Layman's Convention will be held at the Educational Building, Highway 166, Elba, AL, March 18-19, 1994.

On Friday, March 18, 1994, beginning at 6:30 p.m., the devotional address will be given by Deacon Charles Grace. Music will be rendered by the Male Chorus and the Female Chorus.

On Saturday morning, March 19, 1994, beginning at 9:30 a.m., the devotional address will be given by Deacon James Woods. Music will be rendered by the Male Chorus and the Female Chorus.

Officers are: Deacon J. L. Williams, President; Deacon Thomas Brooks, Vice President; Brother B. J. Jones, 2nd Vice President; Deacon L. E. Burnett, Recording Secretary; Deacon Charles Henderson, Corresponding Secretary; Deacon Pete Daniels-Treasurer; Rev. J. G. Chatham-Moderator.

128th Church Anniversary

On Sunday, February 28, 1994, at 2:30 p.m., the New Pilgrim Baptist Church of River Fall, Alabama celebrated the 128th Church Anniversary. Rev. O.C. Culver is pastor of New Pilgrim Baptist Church and Rev. A. R. Williams, pastor of Rocky Head MB Church, Elba, and Shiloh Baptist Church, Tarentum, AL, was the guest minister.

Those from Rocky Head and Shiloh Churches were: Rev. A. R. Williams, Bessie, La Ray, Brett, Chasity and Keitha, Maxwell Hooks, Ernestine Kelley, Kimberly, Melissa, Jana, Tiffany, and Curtis; Evelyn Guiley; Patti Porter; Juanita Brooks; Juanita Burke; Rodrick, Rikaux; Anne Pearl Carpenter, Cathryn and Brittany; J. L. and Estella Williams; David Carpenter, Wallace and Marie Belcher; Vera Williams; Calvin Carpenter, Marietta, William, Deron, and Ashby; and the hosts of Lane and Lanchessia; Samuel and Evelyn Flounroy; Grover and Eria Belcher.

In Memoriam Of Sister Lucile Lindsey Rideaux

She was called home on March 3, 1993. In her blessed memory, her family renders this tribute.

On schedule beginning now, as we pause and reflect on this past year without you in our lives, we yet realize that you are still in our lives, teaching, complimenting, encouraging! With that realization, our sadness turns quickly to happiness with memories of you—Ms. Teacher, our Polly! Having known you as one of us (the Lindsey clan), having known your sweet love for life and learning, makes life and learning so much more sweet and precious as we look behind and ahead. We salute you for all that you helped us to become, and for all that we will become because of your legacy and love for teaching and learning. We love you, and we shall miss you.

Signed: Polly's Folks

Afro-American (Black History) Program

The Rocky Head MB Church youth sponsored a Black History program Sunday morning, February 28, 1994 at the church. Rev. A. R. Williams is pastor.

The skit was entitled "Stop what you are doing it's time to make a change." Marietta Carpenter, the skit, depicting Harriet Tubman, a slave woman. Mary Alice Hooks and Anne Pearl Carpenter wore long dresses, aprons and bonnets.

Congratulations, Marietta, and others in the cast: Wesley Kelley, Derrick Duncan, Brittany Daniels, Samantha Williams, Stephanie Williams, and Curtis Kelley.

Today is a good day. Be grateful. Eria

Companies including the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and the Birmingham Festival Theater, His professional credits include appearing with Van Johnson in "There's a Girl in My Soup" and a role in the movie, "Stay Hungry". Premier audiences have found this play to be absorbing and entertaining; a fascinating juxtaposition of what happens when two remarkable men are caught up in critical moments of great decisions. Do not miss this outstanding performance. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance at the following outlets in Enterprise at Westgate Book and Gift, The Framery, and Plain and Fancy; in Elba at the Jewel Box; and the ITR at Ft. Rucker.

Card Of Thanks

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to all our friends and relatives for your many expressions of love and kindness shown to us during the loss of our love **Laura Hismith**. May God Bless You.

Mary Nell & Reggie Kelley & Children 3-3-11c

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AREA DEATHS

JEFFIE WILLIAMS

Jeffie Williams, age 66 of Montgomery, Alabama, died Wednesday, February 23, 1994, in a Montgomery, AL hospital.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 from the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Elba, AL, with Rev. Charlie Jones officiating.

Burial followed in the Bethlehem Cemetery with Virgil Coleman Mortuary directing.

Survivors include his wife, Clara Mae Henderson; five children, Connie Buckle of Florida, AL, Patricia Dixon (Sammie), Vera Henderson, both of Opp, AL; Willie A. Henderson Jr. (Johnnie Bell) and Christopher Henderson (Kimberly), all of Montgomery, AL; three sisters, Annie Lee Campbell and Annie Pearl Siler, both of Opp, AL, and Martha A. Edmondson of Elba, AL; 10 grandchildren; a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

WILLIE ANDERSON HENDERSON

Willie Anderson Henderson, age 49, died Friday, February 18, 1994, in a Montgomery, AL hospital.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, February 24, 1994 from the Oak Grove Baptist Church, Elba, AL, with Rev. Charlie Jones officiating.

Burial followed in the Bethlehem Cemetery with Virgil Coleman Mortuary directing.

Survivors include his wife, Clara Mae Henderson; five children, Connie Buckle of Florida, AL, Patricia Dixon (Sammie), Vera Henderson, both of Opp, AL; Willie A. Henderson Jr. (Johnnie Bell) and Christopher Henderson (Kimberly), all of Montgomery, AL; three sisters, Annie Lee Campbell and Annie Pearl Siler, both of Opp, AL, and Martha A. Edmondson of Elba, AL; 10 grandchildren; a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

PARILEE HUDSON PETTY

Parilee Hudson Petty, age 90 of Elba, Alabama, died Saturday, February 26, 1994 in an Elba, AL hospital.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 from the Leaky-Memory Chapel, Montgomery, AL, with Rev. Fred Fuller officiating.

Burial followed at 2:30 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba, AL.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice and Sonny Love Holland; a sister, Cattie Mae Lunsford of Titusville, Florida; a brother, Houston Hudson of Tallahassee, FL; 7 grandchildren; 9 great grandchildren; 11 great great grandchildren.

SARA SHEALY WILKES

Sara Shealy Wilkes, age 79 of Montgomery, Alabama, died Tuesday, February 22, 1994 in a Montgomery, AL hospital.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 from the Leaky-Memory Chapel, Montgomery, AL, with Rev. Fred Fuller officiating.

Burial followed at 2:30 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba, AL.

Survivors include two daughters, Karon Wilkes Flint of Virginia Beach, VA, and Becky Wilkes Seay of Lilburn, Georgia; one sister, Ethel Smart of Brundidge, AL; five grandchildren; Bradley Charles Flint, Amy Rebecca Flint, and Sara Catherine Flint, all of Virginia Beach, VA, Heather Michelle Seay and Kelly Nicole Seay, both of Lilburn, GA.

ARTHUR LEE KILPATRICK

Arthur Lee Kilpatrick, age 71 of Enterprise, Alabama, died Thursday, February 24, 1994 in an Enterprise, AL hospital.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 25, 1994 from the Hayes Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Howard Moore officiating.

Burial followed in the Bethlehem Cemetery, Elba, AL, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include five sons, Billie Ray Kilpatrick of Coffee Springs, AL, Bobby Roy Kilpatrick of Long Beach, Mississippi, James Arthur Kilpatrick and Allen Lee Kilpatrick, both of Saucier, MS, and Robert Earl Kilpatrick of Topeka, Kansas; two sisters, Ollie Morris and Martha Hussie, both of Enterprise, AL; one brother, Dallas Kilpatrick of Geneva, AL; 13 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren.

One-vehicle wreck kills Arton youth and injures another

A single-car accident took the life of an Arton youth last Friday night. According to state troopers, Brandon Trey Beasley, 15, of Arton, was killed when he lost control of the 1989 Ford pickup truck which he was driving.

Injured in the wreck was Christopher Gauey, 16, of Arton. He was a passenger in the vehicle.

The accident occurred at approximately 10:35 p.m. near the intersection of Coffee County Roads 111 and 110 located in extreme northeast Coffee County.

Beasley was pronounced dead at the scene by Coffee County Coroner Bobby Baker.

His body was removed from the scene by personnel from the Department of Forensic Science. An autopsy was performed to determine the exact cause of death.

Causey was transported to Medical Center Enterprise by a unit of the Brundidge Rescue Squad. He was later transferred to Flowers Hospital in Dothan where he underwent surgery.

According to reports at press time, Causey's condition was listed as critical-guarded. He is expected to recover from the injuries received in the accident.

The accident was investigated by Whitworth, Units of the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office and Alabama Department of Forensic Science assisted in the investigation.

Hartzog announces candidacy for sheriff on Republican ticket

Boyd Hartzog has announced his intentions to seek the Republican nomination for Coffee County Sheriff.

Hartzog is the first to declare under the GOP banner.

"I've been thinking about this for the past four or five years," Hartzog said.

The lifelong Enterprise native has spent the past 18 years as a member of the Alabama State Troopers stationed in Coffee County. He has additional law enforcement experience as an active criminal investigator with the Alabama National Guard and worked for two years as a reserve deputy with the Dale County Sheriff's Department in the mid-1970s.

He has 22 years of experience in law enforcement.

Hartzog has also been involved in the business side of the community. He managed a large-chain drug store for five years in Ozark and owned a service station in Enterprise.

"The experience in law enforcement will help for that portion of the Sheriff's job," Hartzog said. "The business experience will help in the daily operation and maintenance of the jail as well as the budget activity of the entire department."

Hartzog said he wants to employ a full-time drug investigator and a community relations officer who will work with clubs, schools, and other groups to gain input.

Special city council meeting deals meeting with money problems

by Fern Cox
Publisher

The agenda for the special Elba City Council meeting Monday night only covered two unpaid bills totaling \$77,133. Mayor Ricky Haywood had announced at the last council meeting that the meeting was to take action on paying these bills.

Council member John W. Sharpless said the tax committee appointed by Haywood would be ready to make a recommendation next Monday night.

However at this special meeting Haywood said action on the bills could wait until the next regular meeting on March 14th. At that time the mayor will give the council a report on how much of the funds the city will be able to pay without borrowing.

The two bills are a Workman's Comp bill for \$70,000 and a bill

from Attorney Edward Still for \$7,133. The latter is the bill on the voter redistricting lawsuit filed against Elba and settled in 1993.

The mayor explained that the Workman's Comp bill is with the League of Municipalities and they normally allow the city a few days to pay the account.

"I feel we are going to have to borrow the money, but we need some way to repay it," said Haywood.

Council member John W. Sharpless said the tax committee appointed by Haywood would be ready to make a recommendation next Monday night.

Haywood asked the council's approval for him to contact outside firms about possibly assessing Elba in establishing a municipally owned cable TV system. He is expected to report back on this matter next week.

Elba could make money and offer better quality reception with the use of fiber optics cables, according to Haywood.

Previous estimates on the cost of setting up such a system have been in the neighborhood of half million dollars. Haywood said the present

why his name was on the schedule if he [Laird] was on leave.

The mayor responded by stating it was because she put it there. The discussion then turned to why the mayor was making out the duty roster instead of Chief Charles Driggers doing so.

The mayor further said that she was making out the schedule because she had not been receiving a schedule from the chief as requested earlier. She also stated that the reason for her handling the schedule was because of problems in officers not having time off to be with their families.

Chief Driggers stated that he had been handling the scheduling, although it had not been written out. It was being handled verbally.

Councilman Cole said, addressing the mayor about what he had said in an earlier "closed council meeting" held several weeks ago, "I want you to let Charles run the police department. If he can't run it let's get another chief."

The council agreed on one thing, "Let's begin working together and bring this police department together."

The council heard a complaint from Herbert L. Jenkins, II concerning damage to his automobile when he hit a pothole on Tyler Street (old Co. Rd. 55).

He told council members that he had been told that it was the county's responsibility - the county denied responsibility and told him it was the town's responsibility to maintain the road inside the city limits.

The matter was turned over to the town's attorney, Joe Sawyer, to research the matter and determine who's responsible for maintaining the road - the town or the county. After responsibility is established, a decision will then be made on Mr. Jenkins' claim.

Another complaint was heard by

from Attorney Edward Still for \$7,133. The latter is the bill on the voter redistricting lawsuit filed against Elba and settled in 1993.

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Views from The Pressbox By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melissa turned eleven-years-old this week and it looks like Daddy's little girl may not be as little as she once was. I took her to a friend's house over the weekend for a spend-the-night party, and since we arrived a little late, there were a bunch of girls outside playing. Melissa was ready to join in on the fun, but when she got out of the car she said she didn't want to give Daddy a good-bye kiss in front of all her friends, and simply said "bye." I know all youngsters are excited about growing up, but when you get my age and your kids are too big to give their Dad a kiss, it isn't all that much fun to be grown.

ELBA BASKETBALL TOOK MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN '94

The Elba Tigers saw their basketball season end one game short of the state tournament for the second straight year, and for the second straight year the team that eliminated the Tigers in post-season play went on to win the state championship. That doesn't mean the Tigers would have won the championship if they had won their final games; however, it does let you know that Elba's basketball program is mighty close to being as good as any in the 1A ranks.

Elba's basketball program has improved by leaps and bounds in the past two years under the guidance of Coach Curtis Lane, one of the state's top young coaches, and a coach that is without a doubt on the way up the ladder. Lane inherited a team that had struggled to a losing season when he arrived back in 1992, and laid the foundation for a winning program with discipline and hard work, not only from the players, but from himself. Coach Lane is a workaholic and thinks nothing of having his team on the court seven days a week, and always demands his players give it their all at practice and in games. His work ethic has spread to his players and the results are convincing, with two Area 4 championships in two years and season-ending losses to the eventual state champs. Enough said.

The 1994-95 Tigers will also be a team to reckon with as Coach Lane will return three starters in Roscoe Coleman, Che Vaughan and Cory

Howe. Coleman is a lightning quick guard that improved in each and every game during his sophomore season, and by the end of the season was perhaps one of the state's best young playmakers. Vaughan is a 6'3" forward with the skills to score from outside and the strength to go inside and score, or rebound, against any opposition. Howe is a 6'3" power forward and improved tremendously during his junior season on both ends of the court, as was recognized by being named to the All-Area and All-Region teams. This trio should be more than enough to anchor another winning team, but there will also be plenty of help as LefRay Smedley, Brian Rowe, Shandez Daniels and Michael Reed all seem ready to make the next step to being a varsity player.

A lot can happen over a year; however, if the Elba Tigers can manage to keep Coach Lane around, and if the returning players come back with the same intensity they had this season, next season could be the "Year of the Tiger" on the basketball court!

ELBA EXPECTING BIG THINGS THIS SEASON IN BASEBALL

The Elba Tigers have just completed basketball season and are in the midst of spring football practice, but the sport that is now drawing the most attention in Tigertown is baseball, and it looks like Coach David Lowery's Tigers may very well be ready to enjoy the same success of the other Tiger athletic programs.

The Tigers made it to the "Final 4" in the state baseball tournament last season before failing to eventual state champion UMS-Wright, and returning from the '93 Tiger team are a host of talented players that have enjoyed nothing but success throughout their baseball careers. Senior pitcher Cory Driggers, who has already signed with Southern Union, will lead the Tigers on the mound and should be headed for his best year ever, while also coming back will be pitchers Keith Grantham and Chris Hudson, giving Elba the potential to have one of the strongest pitching staffs in the high school ranks. Multi-talented Josh Caldwell will be back roaming the outfield from foul-line to foul-line and stealing bases whenever he wants, and Che Vaughan will return and has the skills to be a standout at any of the nine positions on the field.

Elba's baseball program has been strong for many years all the way up from Dixie Youth into Babe Ruth, and on into high school, and the Tigers have enjoyed the overall success of the total program for many years. Elba is always one of the top high school teams around, and this could very well be the year they take that next step and bring back a title.

BRANTLEY BULLDOGS MAKE IT TWO STRAIGHT TITLES

The Brantley Bulldogs were picked to win the state basketball championship this season ever since they walked off the court a year ago with the 1993 state championship trophy. The Bulldogs made it look easy in '93, and with four starters returning, the Bulldogs were obvious picks to repeat in '94. It looks like all the so-called experts knew what they were talking about, since Brantley capped off a 32-2 season last week by defeating yet another state championship trophy home to Crenshaw County.

This year's Brantley Bulldogs got off to a late start in basketball because of the success of the state championship football team, but never missed a beat early in the season and won three tournament crowns in only two weeks as they won the prestigious Andalusia Christmas Tournament, their own Brantley Christmas Tournament and then the Southeast Alabama Conference Tournament. Brantley claimed wins over teams like SA Andalusia, 6A Opelika and 2A powers Goshen and Florida during the two-week run, and made it clear that the Bulldogs were indeed the team to beat in the 1A ranks. Brantley played as many as five games a week during one span as the Bulldogs made up all the games that had been postponed and never left the top spot in the 1A poll. Some thought the Bulldogs were getting leg-weary after back-to-back losses to 5A Monroe County and 5A Greenville and less than impressive wins over 1A opponents in the Area and Sub-Region tournament. The Bulldogs were only catching their breaths; however, as they ruled out of the Region and then clobbered the #2 and #4 ranked teams in the state in the "Final 4".

Brantley left no doubt last week that it was clearly the best 1A team in the state, and possibly one of the best 1A teams of all time, as the Bulldogs embarrassed (32-1) Skyline 99-61 and buried (22-4) Belgreen 79-62 in Birmingham. It was the dream matchup as the state's defending champs battled the #2 and #4 ranked teams in the state tournament, and all the sportswriters made it the finals. If the best were at the tourney, the Bulldogs were in a class of their own, as they became only the second team to win back-to-back state championships in Class 1A, since the state was split into four classes way back in 1964. The 1994 Brantley Bulldogs made history, and will always be a part of Alabama's rich high school basketball history, perhaps remembered as one of the state's best 1A teams ever!

This year's 1A state champs weren't born to be great basketball players, they simply grew up in the right place at the right time, and grew up in a small town where the youngsters were taught that the only way to accomplish anything worth having was through hard work and dedication. The starters on this year's championship team included Derek Caldwell, an All-State performer in football that was also the school's most popular student, Andrew Kilcrease, a hardnosed linebacker in football that played throughout the '93 playoffs with a broken arm, Jimmy Burnett, a lightning quick athlete that made the big plays both on the gridiron and on the court, Andreotti Daniels, a former Dixie athlete that made the transition to a new school and overcame the odds to be a two-sport standout, and Adrian Person, a 6'6" junior who always held the comparisons to other Brantley stars that also had the famous last name Person. None of the five starters were born with silver spoons in their mouths, yet they did bring back two big silver trophies to their hometown in basketball, and one big trophy in football.

Coach Tony Stallworth also deserves much of the credit for the success of the Bulldogs, as he inherited a team filled with potential back in 1992 and never backed away from all the talk and predictions of what this group of youngsters would accomplish. Stallworth instilled discipline into his team, but at the same time treated the players like adults and never tried to con them into believing his way was the only way. The players responded and like they say, "The rest is history."

Before closing the book on the 1994 champs, credit also has to be shared with the entire student body and faculty at Brantley High School, that all the Bulldogs fans. It takes a total team effort to win a state championship in any sport, and in Brantley the team has many hundreds of members, and all played a big part in the success of the Bulldogs, not only in athletics, but also in life. Brantley is truly a "State Championship City."

BASKETBALL CROWN CAPS AMAZING TWO YEARS

When the Brantley Bulldogs won the 1A state basketball championship last week it marked the end to what has to be one of the most amazing two year runs ever in 1A sports. All that Brantley has done in the past two years is win a state championship in football, two in basketball and make it to the state tournament in girls softball. Not a bad run for a small school, or even for a big one!

The Brantley football team posted an overall record of 25-2 over the past two seasons and claimed the '93 football championship, while in basketball the Bulldogs compiled a 64-4 record over the same two years and won two straight state titles. Not to be outdone, the Lady Bulldogs had one of the state's top softball teams and made a serious run at the state title. Athletes come and go at all schools, but at Brantley it looks like they've been around for quite some time and don't plan on leaving any time soon.

ONCE OVER LIGHTLY...

***When the SEC voted to move its championship football game out of Birmingham and into Atlanta's new Georgia Dome it came as a surprise to those in Birmingham, but not to many others around the state and the conference. Birmingham is Alabama's largest city and has the corporate base to buy just about any sporting event; however, Birmingham is not the sports capital of the South and it was obvious from the start that the city would not give the event the support it needed to keep the event. History had shown that Birmingham had the money, but not the fan support, to keep a college bowl game, and also failed in its efforts to attract pro football and saw its multi-million dollar race track go under after only a couple of months. Birmingham is a big city and has a lot to offer, but it will never be the sports mecca it thinks it already is.

***The State High School Basketball Tournament was a success last week in its new home at the Birmingham-Jefferson County Civic Center, and while the Civic Center was a spectacular setting for the annual event, Birmingham is just not centrally located enough to make the journey a financial success for the teams involved. There are plenty of hotels around, including the majestic Sheraton right next door, and there was obviously plenty of corporate support judging from all the signs and corporate logos clearly displayed. The major problem is the distance the teams and fans from South Alabama have to travel. LeFlore, from Mobile, had teams in the 6A finals in both the boys and girls divisions, but the crowds were hurt by the fact it was almost five hours from Mobile to Birmingham. No location is ideal to all the schools and their fans, but at least some thought should be given to Alabama State's modern new complex in Montgomery. If the journey remains in Birmingham I'm sure everyone will get used to it and it will become a popular place. I'm just questioning why Birmingham was allowed to buy the tourney when there are other cities and arenas just as nice.

***While on the subject of the State Tournament, I'd also like to know why the 1A and 2A championship games were held before the 6A teams even showed up. The Region schedule were set so that the championship games were held the final two days of the tournaments, but in Birmingham the 1A and 2A teams played on Tuesday and Thursday, while the 6A teams didn't even have to show up until Friday. The 1A and 2A championships are just as important as the 6A championship, and I think it slighted the smaller schools. Maybe the organizers thought the bigger schools would bring more fans; however, after four days of action the biggest crowds were at the games involving the smaller schools, and not the big schools. I urge the state officials to alter the State Tournament format and make it identical to the Region format, giving all the teams and their fans the same chance to share the spotlight.

***Finally, it's "Championship" week on ESPN and that means a lot of basketball in a short amount of time and a lot of Dick Vitale yelling "It's time for 1.0 baby!" I'm not a big Dick Vitale fan, but he does have a Packer trying to outcoach the coaches, and does get genuinely excited about good teams and good plays. I guess maybe we can just turn down the sound.

Enterprise State Junior College recently completed its Intramural Basketball Season and the "Bombquad", pictured here, was the big winner. Throughout six weeks of play, the "Bombquad" finished undefeated. Pictured left to right around the table are Greg Bledsoe, Vernon, FL, Rodney Pearson, Clayton; Dwight Long, Daleville; Rodney Scavner, Clayton; Matt Stark, Ozark; Lacarski Pearson, Clayton; Thomas Brooks, Elba; and Kerry Brantley, Vernon, FL. The submarine sandwich the team is getting ready to celebrate with was donated by Subway.



Enterprise State Junior College recently completed its Intramural Basketball Season and the "Bombquad", pictured here, was the big winner. Throughout six weeks of play, the "Bombquad" finished undefeated. Pictured left to right around the table are Greg Bledsoe, Vernon, FL, Rodney Pearson, Clayton; Dwight Long, Daleville; Rodney Scavner, Clayton; Matt Stark, Ozark; Lacarski Pearson, Clayton; Thomas Brooks, Elba; and Kerry Brantley, Vernon, FL. The submarine sandwich the team is getting ready to celebrate with was donated by Subway.

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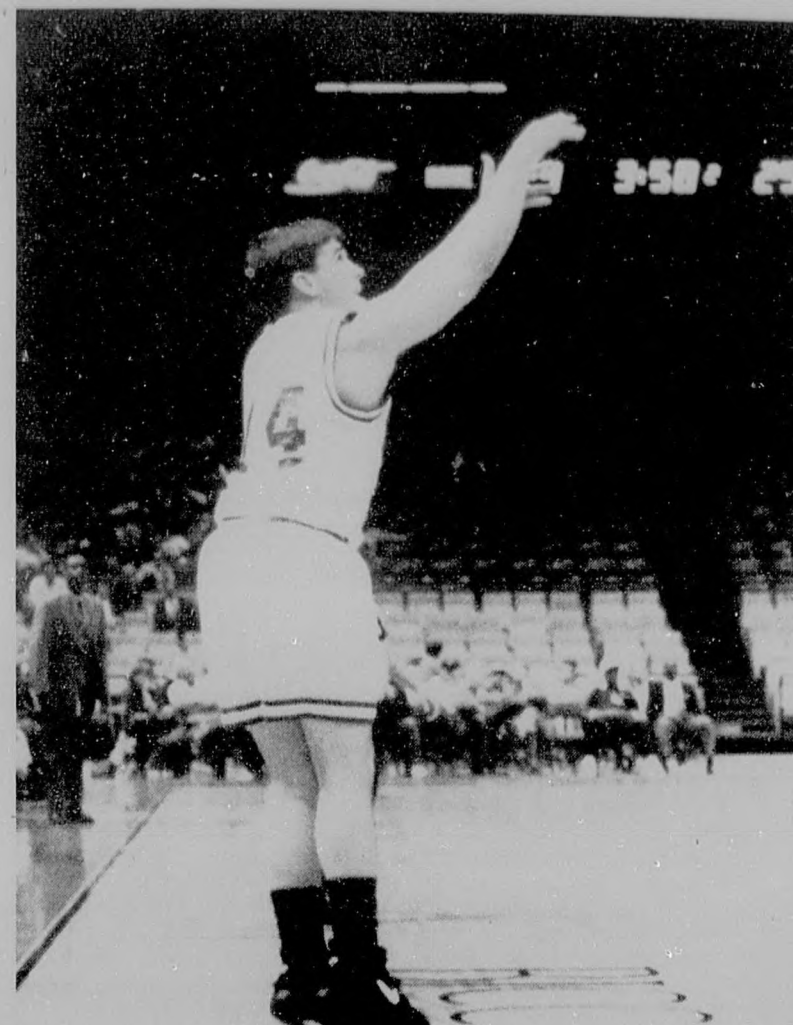
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Brantley repeats as Class 1A state champions

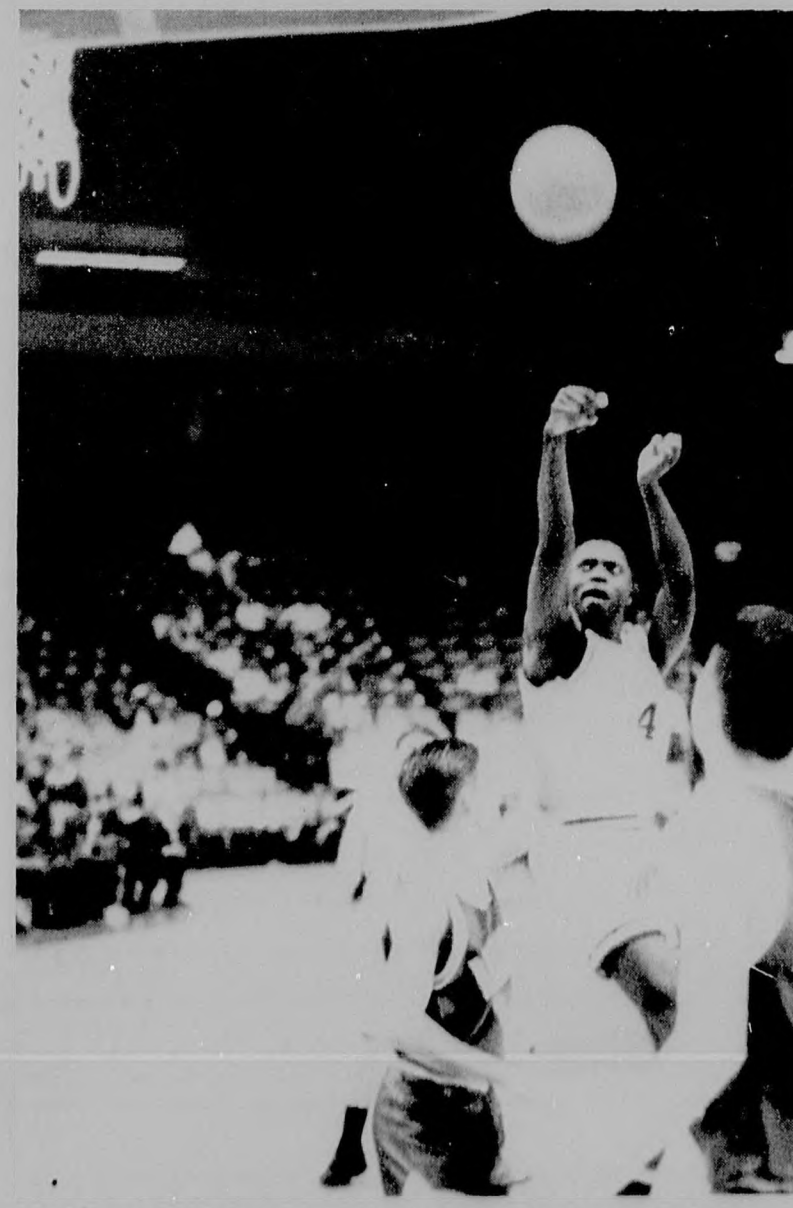
The Brantley Bulldogs continued their two-year reign as the "Kings of 1A Basketball" last week as they posted two impressive wins at the second half to bury the Skyline Vikings 95-61, in semifinal action on Tuesday morning.

The win improved Brantley's record to 31-2, while Skyline, the state's second ranked 1A team, ended its season with a 32-2 record.

The state's top two teams swapped baskets early in the game, but Brantley moved on top 7-6 with 5:45 left in the opening stanza on a three-pointer by Jimmy Burnett and



Brantley's Andrew Kilcrease (44) bombs away from behind the three-point stripe in the Bulldogs big win over Belgreen. Kilcrease hit three three-pointers in the championship game.



Bulldog standout Derek Caldwell (4) fires up an off-balance shot after being fouled. Caldwell was named the 1A Most Valuable Player for the second straight year at the state tourney.

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then stretched its lead to 15-6 with 3:38 left as Derek Caldwell and Adrian Person combined for the next eight Bulldogs points.

Brantley's lead grew to 19-8 with 1:20 remaining in the stanza on a jumper by Andrew Kilcrease and the Bulldogs turned back a late Viking rally to carry a 19-13 lead into the second quarter.

A three-pointer by Kilcrease gave the Bulldogs a quick 22-13 lead in the second quarter, but Skyline came battling back and chopped the Brantley lead to 24-19 with 5:55 left in the stanza.

A three-pointer by Jimmy Burnett quieted the Viking rally and put the Bulldogs up 27-19 with 5:37 left in the half, and when Derek Caldwell drained a short jumper with 3:32 remaining, the Bulldogs were back in charge with a 33-21 advantage.

Brantley's lead grew to 39-23 with 1:05 left on a jumper by Adrian Person; however, Skyline once again staged a late rally and by the end of the half had cut the Bulldog lead to 41-29.

Brantley's lead remained at a dozen in the early minutes of the third quarter as both teams started slowly, but a three-pointer by Andrew Kilcrease upped the Bulldogs' lead to 46-31 with 6:42 left in the quarter and increased to 50-33 a minute later on a lay-up by Adrian Person.

The Bulldogs took their biggest lead of the stanza at 57-39 with 3:43 left on the clock on a basket by Person, only to see the Vikings rally again and cut the lead to 57-47 with 2:14 still left in the stanza.

A lay-up by Derek Caldwell put an end to the Skyline rally and began a Caldwell spurt that ended with a 6-0 Bulldog dunk that ended with a Caldwell split with :08 left that gave Brantley a 63-47 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

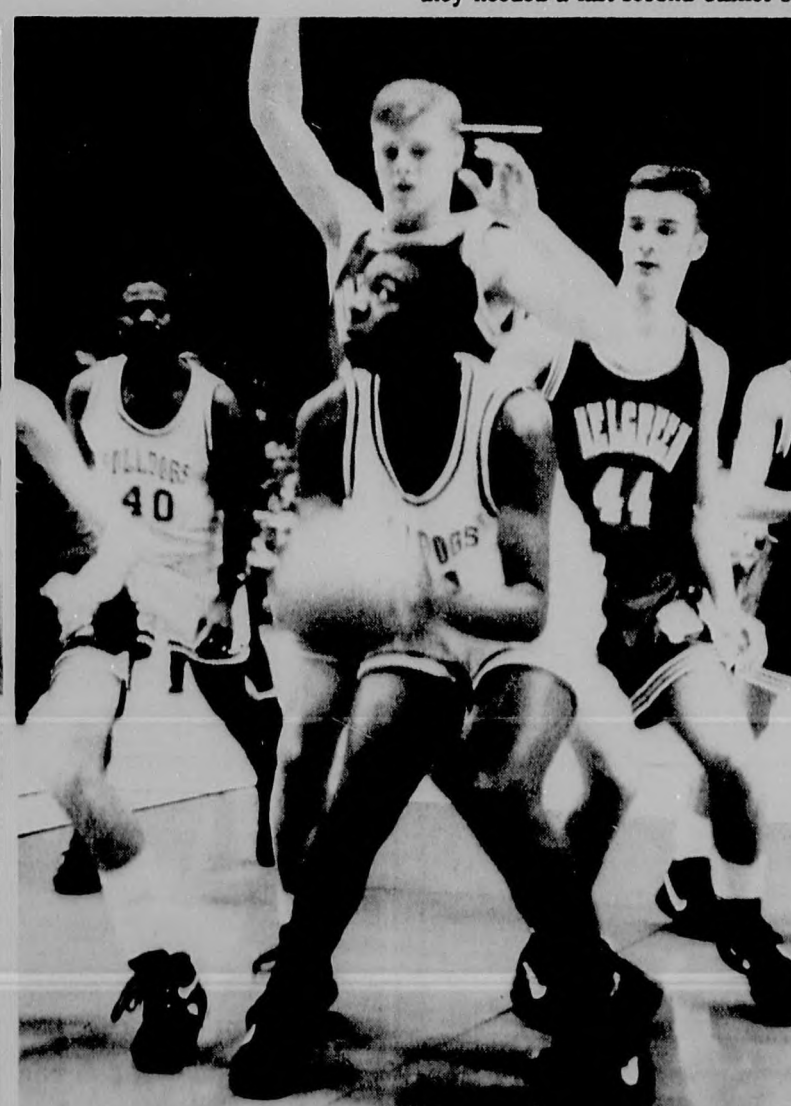
Andrew Kilcrease scored five quick points in the fourth quarter to spark the Bulldogs to a 70-49 lead, and when the "Dogs" grabbed a time-out with 5:52 left in the game Brantley was in command with a 75-52 advantage.

The Bulldogs picked up the intensity after the time-out, and led by the play of Derek Caldwell and Eric Crenshaw went on a 16-2 run as 55-60 Caldwell hit ballooned to 91-55 against the defending state champion Belgreen.

The Bulldogs reserves joined in on the fun in the closing minutes and mopped up the impressive semifinal and pulled within 14-13 with 1:53 left in the stanza on a long three-pointer by Caldwell.

Belgreen carried a 16-13 lead into the second quarter and increased its lead to 18-13 with 7:07 remaining in the half, but Brantley wasn't about to let the lead get any bigger and rallied to pull even at 20-20 on a three-point by Andrew Kilcrease with 6:43 left in the half.

Brantley took its first lead of the game at 26-25 with 3:00 left in the quarter on a tip-in by Adrian Person; however, Derek Caldwell picked up his third foul with 1:59 left, and the Bulldogs couldn't shake Belgreen as they needed a last-second basket by



Brantley's Adrian Person (32) gets ready to go up for an easy basket in the Bulldogs' 79-62 win over Belgreen. Looking on is teammate Andreotti Daniels (40).

BRANTLEY BULLDOGS
 1994 STATE CLASS 1A BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS
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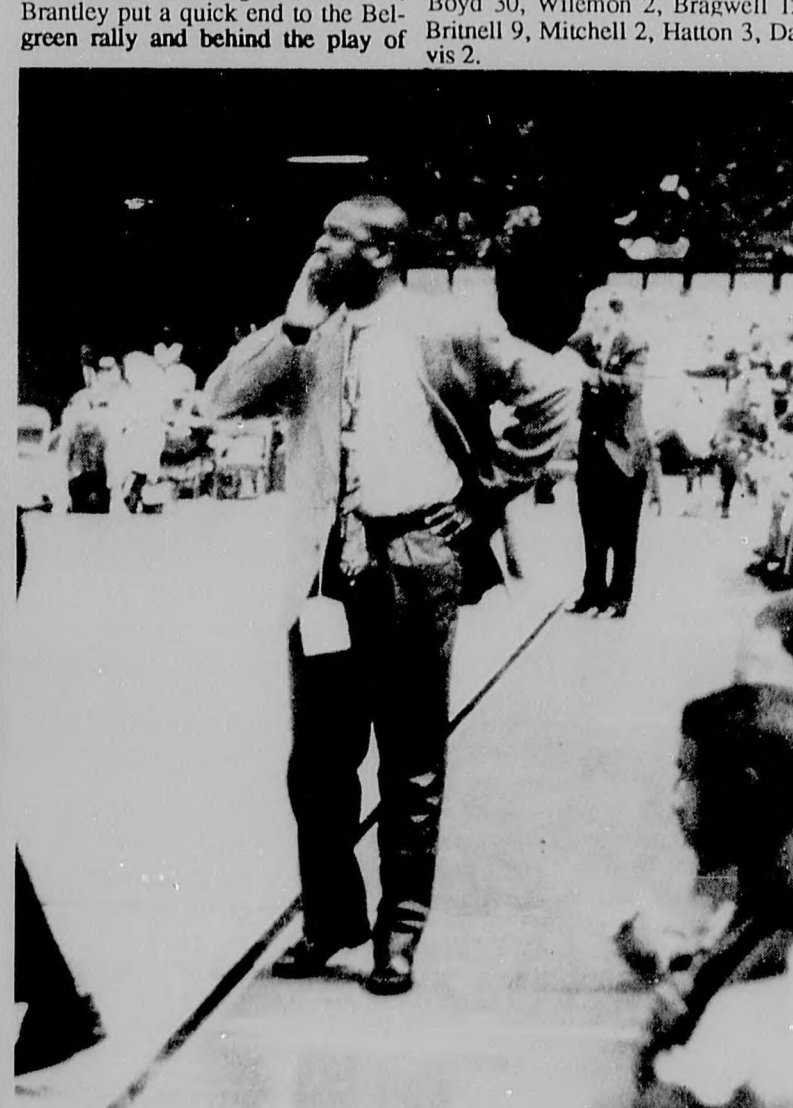
STATE CHAMPIONS ADD TO TROPHY CASE....Members of the Brantley Bulldogs basketball team made it clear last week that they were indeed the state's #1 Class 1A team as they won the 1A state championship for the second straight year.

Andrew Kilcrease to go in at the half with a slim 32-31 lead. Belgreen regained the lead at 33-32 early in the third quarter, but Brantley's Andrew Kilcrease answered with back-to-back three-pointers to put the Bulldogs on top 38-35, and Andrew pulled out to a 44-35 lead before Belgreen called a time-out with 3:51 remaining in the quarter.

Belgreen cut the deficit to 44-39 with 2:57 left in the stanza and appeared ready to make a run at the Bulldogs, only to watch as Brantley regained control late and owned a 48-40 lead after three quarters of play.

Brantley's lead went to 51-40 early in the fourth quarter on a three-pointer by Derek Caldwell, and by the time Andreotti Daniels converted on a three-point play with 5:46 remaining, the Bulldogs had outscored Belgreen 13-2 in the stanza and pulled out to a big 61-42 advantage.

Belgreen cut the lead to 61-47 with 5:13 left in the game, however, Brantley put a quick end to the Belgreen rally and behind the play of



Brantley's Coach Tony Stallworth looks concerned as his team battles for their second straight state title. Stallworth has led the Bulldogs to a 64-4 record over the past two seasons.

Caldwell earns second straight MVP award as Brantley dominates 1A All-Tournament honors

Brantley's Derek Caldwell earned his second straight Class 1A "Most Valuable Player" award last week in leading the Brantley Bulldogs to their second consecutive state basketball championship. Caldwell, a 5'10" senior, scored a total of 45 points in the 1994 State Tournament last week as he scored a total of 45 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in the Bulldogs' two wins. Caldwell, a 6'4" senior, also handed 5 assists and made 2 steals in the two games. In leading the Bulldogs to their second straight state title, Caldwell led on 18 of 36 shots from the floor, including 4 of 10 three-point shots, and hit 5 of 7 shots from the foul line.

Other Brantley players named to the cherished All-Tournament squad were Adrian Person, Andreotti Daniels and Andrew Kilcrease, while Belgreen's Cade Boyd and Gary Brinnell rounded out the six-man list.

Person, a 6'6" junior, scored a total of 39 points and grabbed 19 rebounds for the Bulldogs in their final two wins, and also blocked 4 shots from the floor and was 2 for 2 from the foul line.

Daniels, a 6'3" senior, scored a total of 24 points and grabbed 22 rebounds to anchor the Bulldogs' inside game. Daniels hit on 11 of 14 shots from the floor and was 2 for 2 from the foul line.

Kilcrease, a 5'10" senior, scored a total of 30 points in Brantley's two wins, and also handed out 19 assists, grabbed 4 rebounds and made 6 steals. Kilcrease hit on 11 of 25 shots from the floor and led the Bulldogs with 5 three-pointers.

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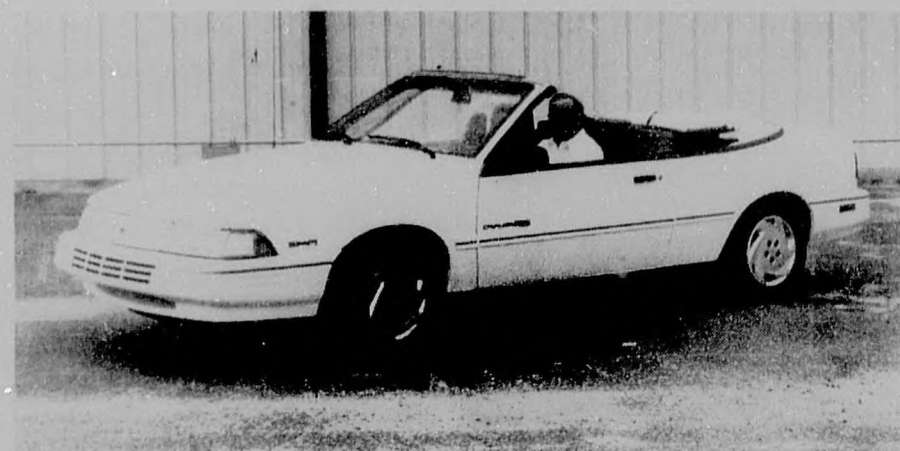
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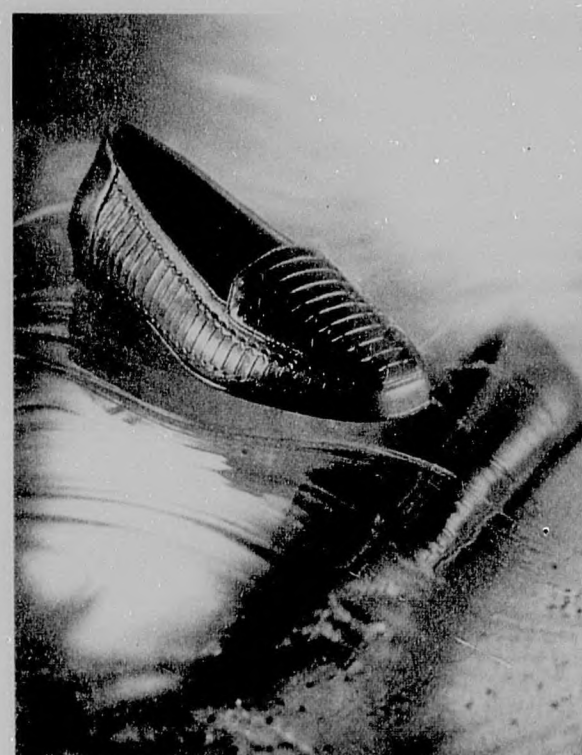


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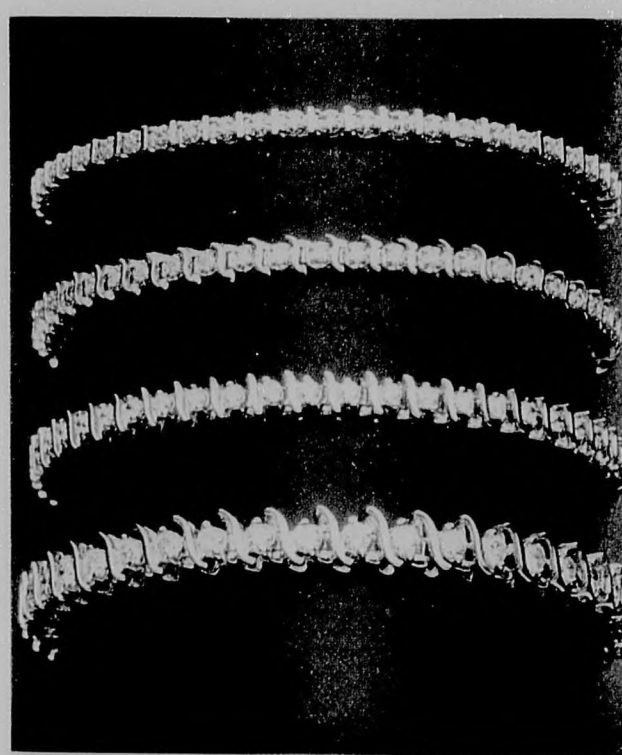


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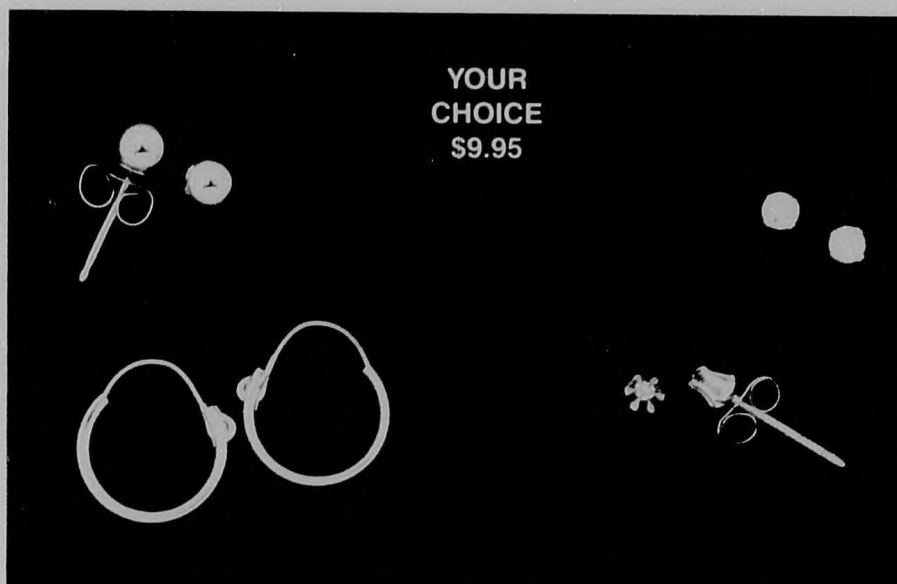
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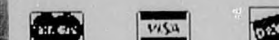
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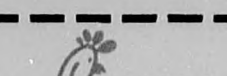
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■ Ride in style with an easy-to-manuever John Deere riding mower. These tight-turning machines feature an enclosed transaxle, disk brakes, and John Deere "K" Series engines for superior performance. There are two shift-on-the-go, gear-drive GX models, and two easy-convert, SRX variator drive models. With variator drive, you get automotive-type speed control with a pedal.

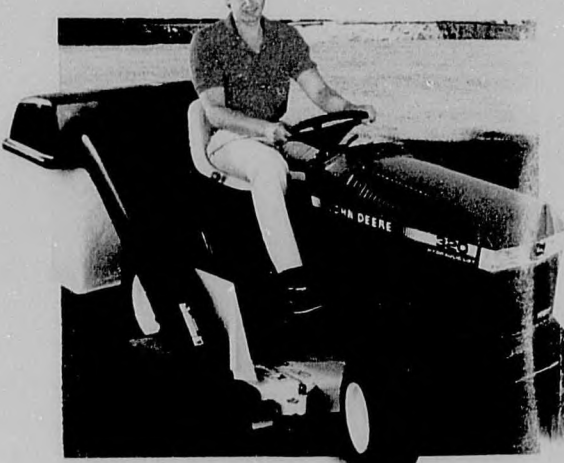


A black and white photograph of a woman with short hair, wearing a dark t-shirt and light-colored pants, sitting on a John Deere riding lawn mower. The mower is dark-colored with 'JOHN DEERE' and '520' visible on the front. It has large rear wheels and smaller front wheels. The background shows a wooden fence and some foliage.

■ We give you plenty of options with our 200 Series Lawn and Garden Tractors. Both the 245 and 265 feature a hydrostatic transmission for easy operation. And an implement attaching system that hooks up in five minutes. On the other hand, our GT242 and GT262 tractors give you affordability as well as versatility. They both feature reliable, overhead-valve engines and heavy-duty 6-speed transaxle. Show us here with optional Tractor[®] mulching attachment.

■ Choose from six walk-behind models—two deluxe models with blade brake clutch, and four economical zone-start models. The deluxe mowers are available in self-propelled with 4-cycle, 5-hp engines. The four economy models include two self-propelled and two push-types. USB model shown here.

Our new STX38 five-speed and hydro lawn tractors combine affordability and reliability. Both feature 125-hp Kohler engines with overhead valves and full pressure lubrication for longer life. And the STX38 tractors feature the tightest turning radius in their class, only 15 inches! The STX38 five-speed allows you to shift-on-the-go with a single pedal. And the hydrostatic model gives you smooth operation and freedom from shifting.



YOU'll get a lift from our 320 Lawn and Garden Tractor's easy-to-use hydraulic lift system. Raising and lowering implements is virtually effort-free. You get user-friendly features like large footrests, a quick-adjust seat, and a five-position tilt steering wheel. And where durability is concerned, a cast-iron front axle,...., full-length steel frame and a liquid-cooled V-twin engine ensure long life. Shown here with optional bagger.



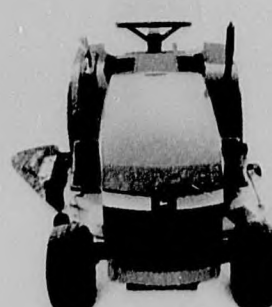
Sit on an LX Series Tractor and feel the ultimate in comfort and performance. Four models are available; one shift-on-the-go gear drive and three hydrostatics. The hydrostatic models feature a patented 2-pedal speed-and-direction control. A liquid-cooled, V-twin engine is standard on the LX178 and LX188 tractors. Turning radius on all tractors is a tight 20 inches. LX188 model shown here.

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It's that simple. And it's John Deere's way of saying that you can trust the mowing equipment John Deere makes.



*homocenter models 510 and 525

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Turn your John Deere riding mower, lawn tractor, or lawn and garden tractor into a mulching mower. Tricycle™ mulching attachment can be used for recycling grass clippings or leaves.

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VOLUME 97

35 CENTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1994

1 SECTION 12 PAGES

NUMBER 40

THE CITY OF ELBA IS AGAIN WITHOUT A CITY CLERK - CLARK RESIGNS AS TEMPORARY

Mayor & council disagree over check signing

by Ferrin Cox
Publisher

The regular meeting of the Elba City Council Monday night was one of action, if not of harmony. The council took no action Monday night to approve or disapprove of Clark's resignation. No action was taken to name another person as city clerk or acting city clerk.

A special meeting of the city council has been tentatively set by Mayor Haywood for Wednesday evening of this week to decide exactly who will be signing payroll and other city checks.

The governing body was poised to introduce and approve an ordinance adding a one-cent sales tax in the City of Elba. Half of that tax would go to the local schools.

Final passage was delayed until the next regular meeting of the council. The proposed ordinance calls for the tax to become effective on May 1st and expire on December 31st, 1996.

When asked from the audience about the city's cutting expenses, Haywood said there had been meetings with all department heads and expenses have already been cut back all they can be cut back.

Work can move forward on getting the bridge built from the new school complex to Taylor Mill Road. The City of Elba accepted a deed to the 100 foot right-of-way connecting the school property and the public highway, thus making it legal for the Alabama Highway Department to let bids for the construction of the bridge.

School Superintendent Charles Pearce explained that the plans are drawn and the highway department is ready to let the bids. It is expected the road will be ready for public use by next fall.

The council heard a report from the mayor on the financial condition of the general fund. This had been requested by council members a

members: Earl G. McCollough or John W. Sharpless. The ordinance also requires that all purchase orders for \$500 or more have prior approval of the city council. The vote was 5-1 with Haywood voting no.

Council member John W. Sharpless presented a request from local businessman Ed Tucker, of Tucker Electric for a lease purchase of the old Elba Middle School. Sharpless agreed to get Tucker to prepare the same type agreement as recently signed with Kent English on the old high school gym.

Monthly bills of \$21,643.25 were approved for payment, this included \$5,497 for the annual audit; \$4177.80 gas bill; \$1927 flood insurance and \$2718.98 in equipment repairs.

Police Chief Jack Parker reported answering 18 complaints and issuing 14 traffic citations, including one for driving under the influence. There were four criminal arrests.

The animal control officer picked up 12 dogs. One was returned to the owner.

Following an executive session requested by Parker, the council approved the hiring of Don Watson as HUD officer, replacing Kevin Burk who Parker said recently resigned.

Engineer Bobby Lee presented the council with a study of problems of the sewer system. He agreed to return after council members had had time to review the report.

One recommendation was that the city set up a crew to work on identified problems daily until they had been repaired.

Dennis Coleman added to this sewer report with details of how they intended to solve the sewer back-up problem on Buford Street at the lev-

el. It will entail spending several thousand dollars to divert a force main sewer from Smith Avenue to another mainline.

Coleman reported to the council that an annual report to ADEM on the sewer system was ready for their review and submission to the state office. He noted the system graded in the 0-70 range (34) and this means Elba is doing OK. In comparison, last year the grade was 1-26, which required some corrections.

Operations Officer Henry Clark reported that the state highway department was planning to resurface several state highways passing through Elba, Highway 84, Brantley Highway and Troy Highway.

The council voted to follow Clark's recommendation and authorize the highway department to include in their bids the \$5-\$6 thousand cost of raising and/or lowering about 20 manhole covers along the route of the resurfacing.

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A TORNADO OR DOWN BURST OF WIND...was the question authorities were trying to determine early Thursday morning (March 10). As far as the Rhodes family, whose home is pictured above, was concerned, it was a tornado! Their home, along with two other homes, were severely damaged by the twister. Two mobile homes were blown off their blocks. Also, five chicken houses received extensive damage while one was totally destroyed; however, most of the 4-week-old chicks inside the houses survived. No one was injured during the storm which occurred at approximately 5:55 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. All of the damaged was localized along Co. Rd. 107 located in the extreme northeastern corner of Coffee County in the Enterprise Community.

Commission holds short meeting

by Marvin McLwain
Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting Monday was one of the shortest held in recent months. Members of the commission wasted little time in getting through their agenda. One thing which contributed to the shortness of the less than thirty-minute meeting was several no-shows on the agenda.

The problem of garbage service - or the lack of it - reared its ugly head one more time.

Carol Eubanks, who lives on U.S. Highway 84 west of New Brockton, told commissioners that her gar-

bage had not been picked up on the right day since the service began. She was also speaking for several other residents who were experiencing the same problem with their garbage.

"All we want," she told commissioners, "is to have our garbage picked up on the day that they say it will be picked up."

Speaking on behalf of the commission, Commissioner Wendell Black assured Eubanks and the other residents that "we understand your problem and I think now Environmental Waste Systems understands."

Commissioner Sid Averett asked the commission to approve a deviation on the right-of-way for the Old Matthews Creek Road from 80 feet to 70 feet.

He told commission members that he had encountered some difficulty in obtaining property owners' signatures on deeds for this amount of right-of-way.

They had indicated to him that they would sign for a 70-foot easement or deed.

A motion was made by Averett and seconded by Commissioner Bill Faulk to that effect.

During the discussion of the motion, County Engineer Mark Pool told commissioners that he would not recommend anything less than a 80-foot right-of-way.

Pool stated that right-of-ways on county roads should be more standard and not change from one lot to another.

Commissioner Robert Stephens told commission members that he had sought support for less right-of-ways in the past but failed; however, he was successful in obtaining the necessary deeds. In some cases he stated that the road came very close to some residents' front porches.

Commissioner Black voiced his support of the standardization of county right-of-ways.

"One man's front porch is just as important as another's," Black said.

Averett's motion failed in a 2-4-1 vote. Averett and Faulk voted for the

motion while Commissioners Stephens, Black, Lawrence Creed and Jack Hanson voted against. Commissioner Ernest Brooks abstained.

Others matters of business addressed by the commission were as follows:

***Signed a resolution formally opposing the combining of Enterprise State Junior College with any other college.

***Adopted a new credit policy for landfill customers. Customers not paying their bill within the time frame specified in their contract will not be allowed to dump their garbage.

***Approved credit to BFI, Southland Foods, and Goodwill Industries for the dumping of solid waste in the county's landfill.

***Approved the sell of three county vehicles at a Montgomery auction on April 18th.

***Agreed to raise the charge to out-of-town customers for using the landfill from \$20 to \$22 per ton.

***Established a \$40 per ton fee for all hard-to-handle waste deposited in the landfill. The landfill manager will determine what is hard-to-handle.

CORRECTION

A letter from Elba Mayor Ricky Haywood Monday reported an error in the report on the Elba City Council meeting in the March 10 edition of the newspaper. The letter was hand delivered by an employee of the Water and Electric Department.

The newspaper has a long standing policy of gladly correcting any factual error reported to the staff and do so here.

The story carried a direct quote of Haywood saying, "It is a headache for me to stop and sign checks when I am trying to run my business."

A certified typed transcript of the meeting furnished by Haywood carried his correct statement. Below are two quotes by Haywood from the furnished transcript:

"I think I can save you a lot of problems there. I would like to have my name removed from signing checks. Signing checks aren't a big deal for me because all the bills have to be approved by the Council anyway. And there have been some Friday mornings at the drug store where I have to, where I have had to sign payroll checks, it would tickle me for Mr. McCollough, Mr. Sharpless, or you to do that."

The second quote was: "We will take a vote on that but I want to go on record tonight that the Mayor won't be signing any more checks, period."

It is not the intention of this newspaper to misquote anyone. Elba city officials have more than enough problems without having to contend with such errors. A sincere apology is extended to Mayor Haywood for any anguish this mistake might have caused him.

Presley retiring after 28 years



Coffee County Extension Service Agent Coordinator Dan Presley is retiring after 28 years of service. More than 25 years of that service was spent serving the people of Coffee County.

Officially, Presley will retire on March 31, but he is presently taking some time off which he had built up. Presley said that he will miss his work and the people he deals with, but he won't be out of sight after he retires.

He hopes to keep on helping people which was the part of his job that he enjoyed doing the most.

On Sunday afternoon, March 20, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m., a reception honoring Presley will be held in the Coliseum of the Farm Center Complex in New Brockton. All residents of Coffee County are invited to attend the event and join others in expressing their appreciation to Dan Presley for his years of dedicated service.

Opp and Andalusia lawyer Wes Laird announced his candidacy for State Senator of District 31 Saturday evening at the Opp National Guard Armory before a crowd of some four hundred supporters.

Laird, who was narrowly defeated by Crum Foshee four years ago, said that his campaign had grown. "Four years ago, I announced we were going to run a cudzu campaign - spreading like kudzu throughout the district. We fell just short of victory then, but look how the kudzu has grown since."

Laird, who formally qualified for State Senator on March 5, said the greatest inspiration in his life as a small child was his grandfather on his mother's side. "From him, I learned the value of family. I learned that there is no substitute for the time you spend with your children. I learned that love is more important than money, that all people are important regardless of their walk in life, that right is always better than wrong, no matter how much the cost, and I learned that the just should be

as good as the unjust. With these basic values as my inspiration, I am proud to announce my candidacy for State Senator of District 31."

Laird said that he is running because he wants to take the values of hard work he learned growing up on his mother and dad's farm near Florida to Montgomery. "One of my

WES LAIRD

jobs as a young boy on the farm was pulling weeds. Now, it's time we pulled the weeds in Montgomery." Along those lines, Laird said he would propose term limits for legislators when elected.

A motion was made by Averett and seconded by Commissioner Bill Faulk to that effect.

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Please See LAIRD, Page 2

Charlie Walker enters race for state representative

Coffee County native Charles Walker announced today his candidacy for House of Representatives, District 91. Mr. Walker will run as a Democratic candidate in the June primary. This district is currently being served by Representative Jimmy Holley.

In announcing his candidacy Mr. Walker states, "My biggest concern is that over the years we have sent representatives to Montgomery to carry on the work of State Government and in my opinion, they have shirked their responsibilities and left the hard decisions up to the courts. I am concerned over the increase in crime, and will work to achieve the better utilization of tax money without a tax increase."

Mr. Walker is currently serving on the Coffee County Board of Education, a position he has held for four years, and has been employed with Windham Lumber Co., Inc. for the past eight years.

Walker graduated from Elba High School in 1969, and received a Bachelor of Science in Education from Troy State University in 1973, and in 1976 he earned a Masters of Education in Administration and Supervision from Valdosta State Uni-



CHARLIE WALKER

versity, Valdosta, Georgia. He is the son of H.D. and Lena Walker of the Jack Community in North Coffee County. Walker and his wife, Mary John, a poultry technician with Con Agra, have been married for twenty-three years and have two daughters, Alisha and Carissa, age twelve.

High-speed chase nets four youths and a stolen car

A high speed chase last Thursday evening resulted in the arrest of four juveniles from Georgia.

According to Elba police, at approximately 7:12 p.m., Thursday, March 10, patrol units became involved in the pursuit of a reportedly stolen vehicle from Colquitt, Georgia.

The chase, which started in Elba, proceeded west on U.S. Hwy. 84 and entered Opp from the north on U.S. Hwy. 331.

After the suspect car went through downtown Opp, police units from Elba and Opp were successful in getting the vehicle stopped.

There was a minimum amount of property damage to the vehicles and no one, police officers or suspects, sustained any physical injuries.

Four (4) male suspects were taken into custody and turned over to juvenile authorities.

Opp and Elba police departments will continue the investigation along with authorities from Miller County, Georgia.

The juveniles were all between the ages of 11 and 12 years old.

*** * HAPPENINGS * ***

ELBA BAND BOOSTER FUNDRAISER. The Elba Band Boosters will host a Womanless Beauty Pageant to kick-off Band Day. This event will take place Friday (Tomorrow), March 18, at 7:00 p.m., in the Elba High School auditorium. The Band Boosters will also sponsor a Boston Butt Sale March 26 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon at the Elba airport. Tickets went on sale March 7 for \$15.00 and can be purchased from any band member.

ELBA JAYCEE FUNDRAISER. The Elba Jaycees will sponsor a Womanless Beauty Pageant, "Miss Foggy Bottom," Saturday, March 19, 1994, at 1:00. The event will be held at the American Legion building located on the Troy Highway, as part of the "Wall of Dreams." Bar-B-Que is also being served starting at 11:00 a.m. Tickets for the bar-b-que are being pre-sold but they will also be available on Saturday. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward an Easter Egg Hunt, clothes and Easter baskets for the needy children of Elba.

WORKERS PROTECTION MEETING. The Workers Protection Standard Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in the Coliseum Building at the Farm Center in New Brockton. The Worker Protection Standards Law of 1992, which affects everyone who uses, applies, or works near pesticides, goes into effect on April 15, 1994. This meeting is to help farm operators, farm owners, and farm workers learn HOW TO COMPLY with the law.

MULBERRY CLEAN-UP. On Saturday, March 19, 1994, the Basic Outreach Group will sponsor a major clean up of the Elba Mulberry Heights School. The group is asking everyone in the community to come out and clean up this eye sore in the Mulberry Heights Community.